

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, first of all, to the men and women of the United States military, how shameful it is to use you. You will be paid. And it is important to note that the Democratic Party, our leadership, is focusing on making sure your families are taken care of.

This is a debate about ensuring domestic spending so that you have education dollars for your children—sadly, some of our soldiers are on food stamps—the CHIP program to be fully funded and made permanent, and veterans benefits to continue.

It is shameful.

When I was growing up, the way to use language against a person running for office was for them to be called an “N lover” or for them to advocate for integrated schools or use the race card.

Now, today, the person who has the highest office in the land is using the race card; and, sadly, congressional Republican Members and leadership are using it by way of illegal immigration in a political ad that has just come out to say that we are responsible for killings by illegal immigrants.

DREAMers are not illegal immigrants. They are Americans. They are soldiers. They are doctors and lawyers. They are my neighbors. They are my interns.

And I am saddened by this. I want the American people to know that the best moral stance to be is where the Democratic leadership is because we are standing for all of America, and we will continue to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to bring up H.R. 4872, the End the Shutdown Act of 2018, a continuing resolution that would immediately reopen the government through Tuesday while negotiations continue on a budget agreement that adheres to parity and on other critical issues to stop the Trump shutdown.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As the Chair has previously advised, that request cannot be entertained absent appropriate clearance.

□ 1415

FIFTY-ONE PERCENT IS A MAJORITY

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, my friend, Sammy Mahon, from Baytown, Texas, drives a jet-black Peterbilt tractor all over America, and he asked this logical question: Why does it take 60 votes for the Senate to make a decision?

He said: Well, the rule—I can't really say what he said; I'll just use the word “nuttty.”

Why have this rule? We all learned in elementary school that 51 percent is a majority. By requiring 60 votes to

make a decision, government is ruled by the few, not the majority; thus, a handful of Senators can block progress.

The result? The government is shut down. The military is not paid. Lovely.

The Senate inconsistently allows the majority rule in some votes but, on others, 60 percent. The Senate should strongly consider what Sammy thinks about this archaic rule: make a decision with 50 percent, regardless of what party is in charge.

Sammy is right. This undemocratic rule is nutty. The sky will not fall if the Senate makes decisions by majority rule.

And that is just the way it is.

COMMANDING MAJORITIES IN CONGRESS

(Mr. RASKIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, a century ago, William Butler Yeats wrote a poem called “The Second Coming,” in which he said: “Things fall apart; the centre will not hold; mere anarchy is loosed upon the world.” But in America, that is not our destiny. We can make sure things don't fall apart. We can make sure that the center will hold.

Let's move beyond the blame game, and let's identify the moral center and common ground for reopening the government and moving America forward.

Commanding majorities in Congress and in the public want to reauthorize and fund the CHIP program and guarantee healthcare for our kids. We should do this for a 10-year period and save \$6 billion over a mere short-term extension.

Commanding majorities in Congress and the public favor reauthorization and funding of the community health centers which are indispensable for both children's and adult health.

Commanding majorities in the public and in Congress favor passing a clean Dream Act for 800,000 DREAMers who are contributing to our communities and in school and serving our country.

And all of us must favor a return to regular order and a fair and transparent budget process that allows all of our agencies, from NIH and NOAA to the DOD, to plan for the effective delivery of public services.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent now to bring up H.R. 4872, the End the Shutdown Act of 2018, a continuing resolution that would immediately reopen the government through Tuesday while negotiations continue on a budget agreement that adheres to parity and addresses the other critical issues facing the country.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As the Chair has previously advised, that request cannot be entertained absent appropriate clearance.

SCHUMER SHUTDOWN

(Mrs. WAGNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because I am frustrated, I am fed up, and I am concerned for our soldiers, their families, my constituents, and all Americans. People are filled with uncertainty. They are confused, and, honestly, so am I.

CHUCK SCHUMER and the Senate Democrats shut down the government over a deadline that does not exist. They voted against a bill they have no issues with. Democrats have recklessly put 9 million children at risk of losing their health insurance. Over 2 million members of our military, the men and women who risk their lives to protect us, are not being paid.

It is time for Senate Democrats to join us and reopen the government. They need to join us in passing the Children's Health Insurance Program, and they need to join us in putting our military readiness, our American soldiers, and our country before political gamesmanship.

Stop the Schumer shutdown.

THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW

(Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I want to speak candidly and directly to the American people.

There are many, many issues that we agree upon, Republicans and Democrats, coming together to solve big challenges.

In my district in New Hampshire, people are dying, and they are dying from an emergency that did not exist—a continuing resolution will not solve their problem—and that is the opioid epidemic that hits districts all across this country. People are dying, families are suffering, and our communities are hurting.

We need to come together, and we can. We have a bipartisan task force with 100 Members of Congress, Republicans and Democrats. Just this week, 50 Members, Republicans and Democrats, came together to ask for funding for this emergency crisis.

We ask the President: Extend the emergency. We need to fund, and now is the time.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent, please, together, Republicans and Democrats, bring up H.R. 4872, the End the Shutdown Act of 2018, a continuing resolution that would immediately reopen the government through Tuesday while we continue negotiations on a budget agreement that adheres to parity and other critical issues like this opioid epidemic. This is urgent. Please, I ask my brothers and sisters on both sides of the aisle.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As the Chair has previously advised, that request cannot be entertained absent appropriate clearance.